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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

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DEPT OF STATE review(s) completed.

30 October 1965

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

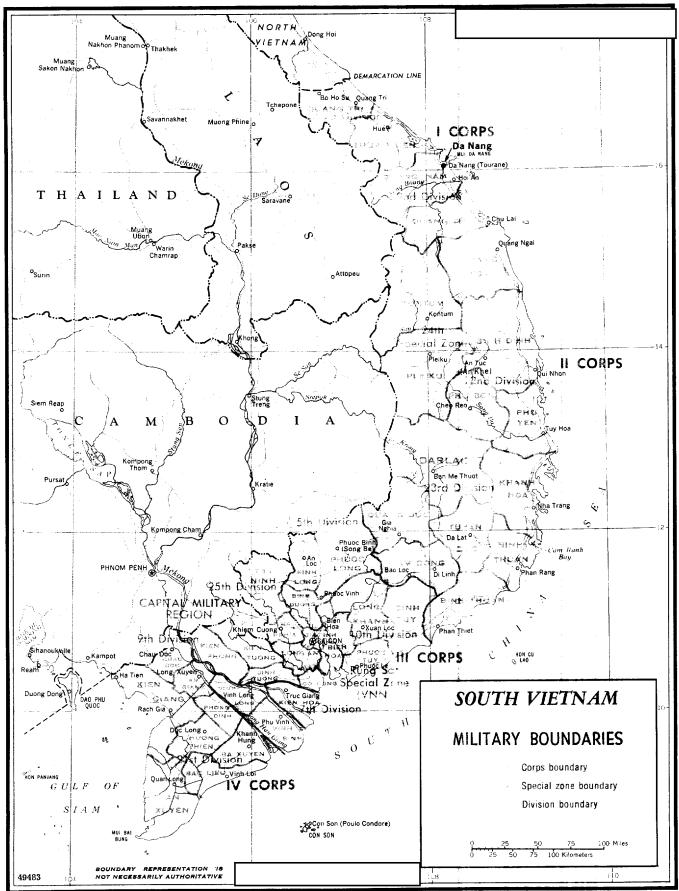
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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: An estimated 400 Viet Cong attacked US Marine positions approximately five miles southwest of Da Nang on 29 October. Marine casualties stand at 16 killed and 45 wounded. The Viet Cong lost 50 killed (body count), and a large number of enemy wounded were reportedly taken into a nearby village.

Political Developments in South Vietnam. Prime Minister Ky evidently is showing a greater interest in the economic affairs of the nation and is demonstrating greater sensitivity in dealing with leaders of civilian groups. This was shown in his recent talks with three officials of South Vietnam's leading labor union confederation. Although the meeting did not deal with specific problems, the labor officials came away from it feeling that it had been very useful. There are two more meetings planned for the near future.

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Indonesia: The army remains concerned about the loyalty of its units in Central Java.

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The US Embassy reports that military leaders believe that eight of 19 combat battalions in Central Java are of doubtful loyalty. Loyal troops, however, are being sent to Java from Sumatra and Borneo. The first elements of these were scheduled to arrive on 27 October.

The US Embassy reports that the situation is also potentially serious in East Java. The military commander there has been awaiting reinforcements from Celebes, and his hesitancy to act has given the PKI time to regroup in an area where it had previously been on the defensive. There has been some Communist infiltration of army units in East Java, but much less than in Central Java.

The army is still building its case that the 30 September movement was clearly a Communist plot. Interrogations of army officers involved in the abortive coup establish that the object of the plot was to set up a Communist-controlled national government. Communist cadres in the army had been alerted to the imminence of a coup as early as 20 September and had been told to support it.

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*Burundi: A tribal free-for-all may follow if the King departs for Europe early next week as some reports now indicate. The absence of the King, who has been a moderating influence, will undoubtedly give the Tutsi extremists supporting him a freer hand against the Hutus. Belgian officials fear that some of these extremists -- riding high following the execution of the top Hutu national leaders--may attempt forcibly to take full command of the government and to reintroduce the Chinese Communists.

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Congo (Brazzaville): [Premier Lissouba has not gained any ground in his struggle with extremists in his regime. The British charge believes that if Lissouba should attempt a showdown with the extremists, he would lose. The chargé notes that although fewer members of the extremist youth organization are roaming the streets of the capital, they are "thicker than ever in the provinces. He adds that the local atmosphere has become even more anti-American than it was when US representatives were withdrawn last August./

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Congo (Leopoldville): [Parliamentary support for the Kimba government is apparently declining. The US Embassy reports that there is also increasing dissatisfaction in Parliament with President Kasavubu. Interior Minister Nendaka said

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that several deputies proposed as cabinet members by Kimba were reluctant to serve lest acceptance of positions cost them their parliamentary seats.]

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Afghanistan: Afghanistan's new prime minister, Mohammed Hashim Mariwandal, is the pro-Western former ambassador to the US and is considered one of the liberal and well informed members of the government. The sudden resignation yesterday of Prime Minister Yusuf may have been due to political pressures as well as the announced "reasons of health." Yusuf, who had just formed a new government on 25 October, had received parliamentary approval only after a vigorous parliamentary dispute and violent

student demonstrations.

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